# Welcome to Founders Metropolitan Community Church Membership/Inquirer's Class

Welcome & Prayer

Overview of our time together

**Our Spiritual Location / Sharing of our Personal Stories** 

**Our Fellowship / Denomination** 

**Our Church (Founders Metropolitan Community Church)** 

Membership: The Process and What it means

**Our Ministries & Finding Your Passion** 

Forms

**Close in Prayer** 



## **Our Core Values**

### **Inclusion**

Love is our greatest moral value and resisting exclusion is a primary focus of our ministry. We want to continue to be the conduits of a faith where everyone is included in the family of God, and where all parts of our being are welcomed at God's table.

### **Community**

Offering a safe and open community for people to worship, learn and grow in their faith, is our deep desire. We are committed to equipping ourselves and each other to do the work in our world that God has called us to do.

### **Spiritual Transformation**

Providing a message of liberation; from the oppressive religious environment of our day, or, to those experiencing God for the first time, is what motivates and guides our ministry. We believe that when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ, lives will be transformed.

### **Social Action**

Seeking to talk less and do more, we are committed to resisting the structures that oppress people and stand with those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.



## Founders MCC Mission Statement

Founders Metropolitan Community Church (FMCC) is a prophetic, liberating and progressive Christian community of faith that honors, values and welcomes all people. We are rooted in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, and intersex communities. We preach a relevant, vibrant and scripture-based message that embodies and celebrates everyone's spirituality and sexuality. We challenge each other to make our lives count, as we invite everyone to be transformed in mind, body and spirit. From a place of trust, wholeness and holiness, we reach out as the hands, feet, and heart of Christ through acts of justice and compassion to make a difference in our world. ~ Revised June 2003

## Our Vision for the Future

Metropolitan Community Churches are on a bold mission to transform hearts, lives, and history. We are a movement that faithfully proclaims God's inclusive love for all people and proudly bears witness to the holy integration of spirituality and sexuality.

Just as Jesus did, we are called to:

- **Do justice**, show kindness, and live humbly with God. (Micah 6:8)
- **Explore** life's questions with open hearts and minds.
- Raise our voices in sacred defiance against religious (and political or systemic) exclusion.
- **Reach out** to those with no hope.
- Lift up new generations of remarkable, far-reaching spiritual activists.

## **Our Strategic Plan**

Founders Metropolitan Community Church also has chosen to follow the Strategic Plan as laid out by our Denomination. The full plan can be found on the Denomination's website: www.mccchurch.org

The main points of the plan are included below:

### Marketing

Increase the effectiveness with which we present the powerful, life-transforming message of Metropolitan Community Churches.

### **Justice**

Emerge as more faithful and influential advocates for liberation from all forms of oppression and injustice in the world.

### <u>Evangelism</u>

Launch a new era of outreach and inclusion in FMCC that results in consistently adding new people to our global community of faith.

### **Resources**

Develop and deliver the relevant and useful resources most needed by our church to successfully carry out our mission and ministry.

### **Finances**

Build a culture of generosity in FMCC that leads to a strong base of human and financial resources to assure the success of our mission and ministry.

Please visit our website for our by-laws and other administrative information



FMCC's Website: www.mccla.org

# Our Beliefs, Sacraments and Rites of Metropolitan Community Church

## Our beliefs:

Christianity is the revelation of God in Jesus Christ and is the religion set forth in the Scriptures. Jesus Christ is foretold in the Old Testament, presented in the New Testament, and proclaimed by the Christian Church in every age and in every land.

Founded in the interest of offering a church home to all who confess and believe, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches moves in the mainstream of Christianity.

Our faith is based upon the principles outlined in the historic creeds: Apostles and Nicene.

## We believe:

In one triune God, omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient, of one substance and of three persons: God, our Parent-Creator; Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, God in flesh, human; and the Holy Spirit, God as our Sustainer.

That the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, showing forth God to every person through the law and the prophets, and finally, completely and ultimately on earth in the being of Jesus Christ.

That Jesus...the Christ...historically recorded as living some 2,000 years before this writing, is God incarnate, of human birth, fully God and fully human, and that by being one with God, Jesus has demonstrated once and forever that all people are likewise Children of God, being spiritually made in God's image.

That the Holy Spirit is God making known God's love and interest to all people. The Holy Spirit is God, available to and working through all who are willing to place their welfare in God's keeping.

Every person is justified by grace to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are saved from loneliness, despair and degradation through God's gift of grace, as was declared by our Savior. Such grace is not earned, but is a pure gift from a God of pure love. We further commend the community of the faithful to a life of prayer; to seek genuine forgiveness for unkind, thoughtless and unloving acts; and to a committed life of Christian service.

The Church serves to bring all people to God through Christ. To this end, it shall arrange for regular services of worship, prayer, interpretation of the Scriptures, and edification through the teaching and preaching of the Word.

## **Sacraments** This Church embraces two holy Sacraments:

**Baptism** by water and the Spirit, as recorded in the Scriptures, shall be a sign of the dedication of each life to God and God's service. Through the words and acts of this sacrament, the recipient is identified as God's own Child.

**Holy Communion** is the partaking of blessed bread and fruit of the vine in accordance with the words of Jesus, our Sovereign: This is my body...this is my blood. (Matthew 26:26-28). All who believe, confess and repent and seek God's love through Christ, after examining their consciences, may freely participate in the communal meal, signifying their desire to be received into community with Jesus Christ, to be saved by Jesus Christ's sacrifice, to participate in Jesus Christ's resurrection, and to commit their lives anew to the service of Jesus Christ.

## <u>Rites</u>

The Rites of the Church as performed by its duly authorized ministers shall consist of the following:

The **Rite of Ordination** is the setting apart of duly qualified persons for the professional ministry of this Church. It is evidenced by the laying on of hands by authorized ordained clergy or UFMCC Elders, pursuant to these Bylaws.

The **Rite of Attaining Church Membership** shall be conducted by the Pastor or Interim Pastoral Leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. In accordance with criteria established by the local church, a baptized Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith.

The **Rite of Holy Union/Rite of Holy Matrimony** is the spiritual joining of two persons in a manner fitting and proper by a duly authorized clergy, Interim Pastoral Leader of the church, or UFMCC Elders. After both persons have been counseled and apprised of their responsibilities one toward the other, this rite of conferring God's blessing may be performed.

The **Rite of Funeral or Memorial Service** is to be fittingly conducted by the ministers of the Church for the deceased.

The **Rite of Laying on of Hands** or prayer for the healing of the sick in mind, body or spirit is to be conducted by the ministers of the Church, at their discretion, upon request.

The **Rite of Blessing** may be conducted by the ministers of the Church for persons, things and relationships, when deemed appropriate by the minister. This includes the dedication of a church building to the glory of God.

(The Doctrine, Sacraments and Rites can be found in MCC's By-laws on their website)

# Founders Metropolitan Community Church:

# A Quick History

Oct. 6, 1968:	MCC founded by Rev. Troy D. Perry in Huntington Park, California
1979:	Church at 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Union purchased and occupied;
	first UFMCC General Conference held.
Jan. 27, 1973:	Building at 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Union destroyed by a fire of "suspicious origin."
1974:	MCCLA purchases and occupies the former Belasco Theater at
	11 <sup>th</sup> & Hill downtown.
Feb. , 1986:	Rev. Nancy L. Wilson elected pastor of MCC Los Angeles.
1987:	Hill Street building sold and Washington & La Cienega property in
	Culver City purchased.
Jan. 17, 1994:	Building Washington Boulevard destroyed during Northridge earthquake.
1996:	Santa Monica Boulevard property purchased jointly with UFMCC and occupied.
Feb. 15, 2001:	Rev. Michael J. Nikolaus serves as MCC Los Angeles' interim pastor.
Nov. 4, 2001:	Rev. Neil G. Thomas of Bournemouth MCC, England, elected as Senior Pastor of MCCLA and
	began his pastorate in early 2002. He was installed March 10, 2002.
March, 2009:	Moved to Franklin and Kenmore in the Los Feliz district of Hollywood.

Pastors:	Locations:	
1968 – 1972 Rev. Troy D. Perry	1968	Troy Perry's home, Huntington Park
	1968	The Women's Club, Huntington Park
	1968	Embassy Auditorium, Los Angeles
	1968	First Methodist Church, Los Angeles
	1968 – 1970	Encore Theater, Hollywood
	1970 – 1973	22 <sup>nd</sup> & Union Street, Los Angeles
1972 – 1975 Rev. Lee J. Carlton	1973	Aquarius Theater, Hollywood
	1973	American Legion Hall, Hollywo
	1973 – 1974	Encore Theater, Hollywood
1975 – 1976 Rev. James Sandmire	1974 – 1987	11 <sup>th</sup> & Hill Street, Los Angeles
1976 – 1978 Rev. Donald Pederson		
1978 – 1985 Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey		
1985 – 1986 Elder Larry Rodriguez		
1986 – 2000 Rev. Nancy L. Wilson	1987 – 1994	Washington & La Cienega, Culver City
	1988 – 1989	Crescent Heights Methodist, Hollywood
	1994	Sound Studio, Culver City
	1994	Beth Chayim Chadashim, Los Angeles
	1994 – 1995	Pio Pico School Auditorium, Los Angeles
	1995 – 1996	Plummer Park Auditorium, West Hollywood
	1996 – 2008	8714 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood
2001 – 2002 Rev. Michael Nikolaus 2002 – present Rev. Neil G. Thomas		
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	2012 – present	4607 Prospect Avenue, Los Angeles

## **Inclusive Language with Reference to God**

Recognizing that our language is limited and limiting, it is important to counteract those limitation by using many and varied images and metaphors as we attempt to speak about God. Our language about God should be as intentionally diverse and varied as is that of the Bible and our theological tradition. We suggest that as you lead worship you consider using some of the following terms and phrases (or be creative and come up with your own) when speaking to and about God. (This list was compiled by Drew Theological School's Task Force on Inclusive Language in 1981 and was adapted for use at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1986).

All-powerful God Almighty Giver of Good Answer to all mysteries Awesome God Awesome One **Binder of Wounds** Brightness of faithful souls Comfort of sufferers Companion of the lonely Creative Source of all being Creator and Preserver of all humanity Creator of all Creator of goodness and beauty Creator of the light Delight of the Ages **Desire of Nations** Eternal Father-Mother God Eternal God our Answer **Eternal Keeper Eternal One Eternal Ruler Eternal Source of Love** Eternal Spirit of... Ever Living God Ever Loving God Faithful God The First and the Last Fountain of all Holiness Fountain of Life Fountain of Light and Truth Fountain of Wisdom

Friend of the poor Friend Generous Provider of all Good Gifts Giver of all good things Giver of every good and perfect gift Giver of health and salvation Giver of life and health Giver of love Giver of peace God arrayed in justice God of ages past and future God of all being God of all comfort God of all compassion God of all creatures God of all flesh God of all generations God of all power God of all the world God of all times and places God of Earth and air God of earthquake, wind, and fire God of eternal might God of forgiveness and understanding God of freedom and right God of grace and glory God of Heavenly powers God of holiness

God of holy love God of hopes and joys God of Israel's past God of life and death God of light and sun God of many deliverances God of peace God of power and splendor God of prophets and apostles God of steadfastness and encouragement God of all righteousness God of the beginning, God of the end God of the loving heart God of the morning and noon God of the spirits of all God of this day God of unchangeable power God of wonders God our Companion God our Helper God surrounded by glory God Who art perfect love Gracious Giver of knowledge Gracious God Great God of power Great God of Hope

Hope of all the ends of the Farth Judge Eternal Incognito God Inexhaustible God Great Ruler of the world Great Healer of body and soul Guardian of our lives Guide of the meek Guide and inspiration of humanity Guide of humanity Healer of the sick Heart that inspires in us a vision of justice & love Hearts Delight Helper of all persons Helper of the weak Hidden God High and Holy One

Infinite God Inspiration to goodness Judge of all humanity Keeper of the covenant Keeper of our souls Life of all who live Life of mortals Life of the universe Life of the world Light of all seeing Light of the faithful Lover of peace Lover souls Maker of all things Maker of Heaven and Earth Maker of light Maker of man and woman in God's image Mighty God **Mighty Redeemer** Mind of the Universe

Mind that unifies all creation Most merciful God One and Eternal God of time and space Only One Our Creator and Our teacher Our Refuge and Our Strength **Our Source** Power that brings healing Power that saves Power that shields Proclaimer of justice Protector of all who trust Pure and upright One Radiance of faithful souls Radiant and glorious God Redeemer and Deliverer Redeemer of Israel Redeemer of the oppressed **Redeeming God** Repose of the dead **Righteous God Righteous One of all** generations Rock of all creation Rock of our salvation Rock of our life Ruler of all peoples on Earth Ruler of all creation Ruler of the universe Searcher of hearts Shelter from the storm Shield of our fathers and mothers Shining Glory Source of all existence Source of all health Source of all power Source of all that we have and are

Source of all true joy Source of blessing Source of Creation Source of deliverance and help Source of eternal light Source of freedom Source of good Source of health and strength Source of life Source of peace Source of mercy Source of salvation Source of strength Source of truth and law Sovereign God Sovereign of peace Staff and support of the righteous Shepherd Steadfast and loving One Strength of our life Strength of the weak Strength of those who labor Strong God of truth Support of the innocent Sustainer of all the worlds that are Teacher of peace The one and only light The Sun of the world Will that gives us power World's Light Wondrous Fashioner and Sustainer of life Refuge of those who put their trust in God

## **Membership Process and Policies**

## Process for Becoming a Member

In order for someone to become a member, you will need to complete the following process:

- Attend a membership class
- Agree and sign the Covenant for Members
- ☑ Complete the registration and stewardship pledge forms
- Register to participate in a ministry
- Attend Blessing of New Members

## Process for People who transfer from another MCC Church

- Agree and sign the Covenant for Members
- ☑ Complete the membership registration steward pledge forms
- Register to participate in a ministry
- Attend Blessing of New Members

## Process for an Active Member to become Inactive

In order for a member to become inactive the following events have occurred:

- 🗹 You request it
- ☑ The member has no record of giving for one year
- $\blacksquare$  The member has not been involved in a ministry for one year

## Process to Members to change from Inactive to Active Member Status

Any member who has been in an inactive status for over one year will need to do the following to have the membership re-activated:

- $\blacksquare$  Request to be moved to active status
- Agree and sign the Covenant for Members
- Complete the membership registration and stewardship pledge forms
- Register to participate in a ministry



## **Communication Covenant**

As a member of Founders Metropolitan Community Church, each of us must recognize that communication skills are essential to efficient, effective and orderly operation of the church. Therefore, each member agrees to enter into a covenant between other members in individual conversations, group meetings and written communications. By seeking membership, we agree to uphold this covenant.

- 1. Admit and accept responsibilities for one's self, one's own thoughts, attitudes and behaviors.
- 2. Respect one's self and others.
- 3. Do not attempt to articulate another person's thoughts, attitudes or positions without their prior invitation. Do not make accusations.
- 4. If a problem arises with another person, always go directly to that person first to resolve the problem.
- 5. Deal directly with others. Be loving and caring, yet frank.
- 6. When a problem arises, solve it immediately. Don't wait.
- 7. Be sensitive to differences of all types that exist between people. These include but are not limited to: race, gender, age, ethnicity, physical ability, economic status, nationality, and sexual/affectional preferences.
- 8. Ask for an explanation of what a person means by what they have just said if you are not sure, rather than forming an incorrect conclusion.
- 9. Listen and hear what others have to say. Try to put aside preconceptions or judgments and be in the present moment. Do not interrupt when another person is speaking.
- 10. Be considerate and do not take more than your share of speaking time.
- 11. Keep all participants at equal levels of responsibility for the outcome of the interchange.
- 12. Use no abusive language when dealing with others. This includes name calling, insults or harsh scolding, although being emotional about one's own feelings may occur.
- 13. Don't gossip. Listen to someone else's needs or do something about a problem within your domain, but don't be a part of spreading rumors about an absent person.
- 14. No back biting, that is, talking maliciously about an absent person.
- 15. Admit when an impasse is reached and no further productive interchange can occur. Terminate the communication for that time, rather than trying to get one's own way.
- 16. Make a definite agreement about when you will discuss a problem if you cannot discuss it when approached.
- 17. Be available to listen to anyone that may have something to discuss.
- 18. Do not negate, deny or invalidate another's feelings.



## **Covenant to Our Members**

This Covenant to our members is a commitment from the Pastor and the congregants in how we will grow together as a church which embraces the love of Jesus Christ and God.

### As a Church, we:

- 1. Provide powerful worship experiences.
- Provide education that will facilitate the development of your faith and spiritual journey. A person on a faith and spiritual journey goes through several stages of realization and development. These stages are as follows:
  - **Awareness:** You have become aware and are experiencing God in your daily life. You are wanting to understand and feel God's love for you.
  - **Growth:** You are growing in your relationship with God. You are becoming more self-aware of the Spiritual Gifts that God has given you.
  - *Sharing:* You are sharing your spiritual journey with others. For example, you have started daily meditations, prayers and healing.
  - *Listening:* You are listening to God and following God's direction for you. You are becoming aware of what you are called to do with God. You have a sense of purpose and self-worth in life.
  - *Gifts:* There are many gifts that God has given you and you want to give back to others. You are cocreating with God to make the world a better place. You are giving your talents through ministry and tithing financial support in order to reach out to others who are seeking God.
  - **Commitment:** You are committing to serving God through the ministry and mission work which reflects God's love in all that you do.

### 3. Provide excellent "responsive" pastoral care.

# 4. Provide you with support through the programs that you participate in.

At Founders MCC, members of a ministry can expect to find care and support from the other members of that ministry at the grassroots level. If you are not involved in a ministry and/or have drifted away from the Church, you will not be in a position to benefit from the care of ministry members. Each ministry will let you know what kinds of care and support they provide.

### 5. Provide ways for you to be heard.

The Church has developed various ways to gather your feedback. Feedback resources range from forums which are set up throughout the year, Congregational Meeting, as well as the staff and lay delegates.

# 6. Provide clear commitment to regular comprehensive communications, including an annual congregational meeting.

The Pastor, Board of Directors and Delegates will deliver an annual report.

# 7. Provide a respectful environment for diverse views; treat each other with respect and honor diversity.

Our members come from a variety of religious and ethnic backgrounds. Our church will reflect some of these different backgrounds through our services, music, and ministries.

# 8. Acknowledge the gifts you bring forward and support you in the use of these gifts in the Church.

Each year our Church sponsors an annual event to recognize the gifts given by members to various ministries.

### 9. Acknowledge accomplishments.

The Church will regularly acknowledge accomplishments through various events throughout the year.

# **10.** Challenge you to be the best that you can be.

The Church wants to help individuals grow and develop. You are encouraged to take advantage of the training and skill development opportunities available to members. All teams will also receive beneficial feedback, delivered in a caring way, on your specific growth areas and needs.



## **Covenant from our Members**

The covenant from our members is a commitment to grow together as a church which embraces the love of Jesus Christ and God.

## As a member of Founders MCC:

- 1. I commit that Founders MCC is my Church home, and I will respect and honor my Church home. Your Church home is the place where you do most of your worship, service and support. You are not required to give up other affiliations to be a member or worshiper at Founders MCC. We ask that members of Founders MCC treat the Church and its congregants with respect.
- 2. I affirm the Mission, Vision, Core Values and Church goals of Founders MCC

Affirming Founders MCC's values, beliefs, vision and mission does not mean that you must agree with everything in those documents. It means affirming their essence and direction. We are a Church whose members come from diverse faith traditions. Our congregation affirms that there are many paths to God.

3. I make a commitment to regular worship with Founders MCC

As a member, you determine what regular worship means to you, and then honor that commitment. Historically, members usually at the church a minimum of one Sunday each month to maintain membership.

4. I commit to dealing directly and engaging in responsible conflict resolution and asking for help if needed.

Conflict is a part of everyday life. How we handle it makes the difference between worsening a situation or resolving it and forgiving one another. Members are responsible to solve conflicts that they are involved in. Here is what we know will help:

See the person with whom you are in conflict and try to work it out between the two of you. If that doesn't work, seek a mutually agreed upon mediator. If that still doesn't work, seek church arbitration. Do not spread gossip, bad mouth people or otherwise "increase the circle" of conflict. It helps no one. I choose to discover and use my gifts by volunteering in ministry through Founders MCC.
Members begin their journey of discovery by

signing up with a ministry.

6. I accept personal responsibility for caring in my ministry group.

Each group defines how care is provided in that ministry. Members pledge to honor the ways that their Ministry group has decided to provide this care.

7. I commit to regularly supporting the Church by identifying and honoring my ongoing financial commitment.

As a member, you promise to support the church financially on a regular, ongoing basis. The amount of that commitment is between you and God.

- 8. I will ask for help or support when I need care. At Founders, it is your responsibility to reach out if you need or want care, for example, by calling and leaving a message at the office about illness, loss, etc.
- 9. I will affirm that I have a role in nurturing the growth and development of the Church. We want Founders MCC to grow in the variety and quality of the programs that we offer to care for the world. We want to increase the number of people regularly involved. As a member you promise to assist with these goals wherever possible.
- 10. I will attend and participate in the annual congregational meeting. I will actively vote for the candidates in which will continue to support the Mission, Vision, Values and Church Goals of Founders MCC.

We want Founders MCC to have leaders in elected positions that show commitment to our church through their active participation in tithing, volunteerism and regular attendance in Church These elected members should truly be representative of the congregation as a whole.

## Blessed to be a Blessing!

The Bible talks about "bringing the whole tithe into the storehouse". The Biblical standard of our pledge is a tithe (10%) of our income that should be donated to the church. We know that a number of our community not only tithes but goes beyond the tithe in their act of radical giving. However, whether you give 10% (tithe) as your pledge or some other amount, know that your pledge makes a difference.

Keith, a member of the church who made a commitment to pledge a tithe, wrote this:

"God has been a major part of my life for as long as I can remember. I found a new church home in MCC a few years ago when I was challenged to consider tithing. I have found, over many years that giving my tithe has been a blessing. Sometimes it has been "easy" and sometimes it has been "tight", but I have never found myself "without". Giving is not limited to tithing. Whether I give money, time or service, I have always received more in return."

Founders MCC Los Angeles relies solely on your generosity. Whatever you choose to give is appreciated. However, without much needed funds we will not be able to continue to expand the programs and ministries that all of us come to rely on in our spiritual journeys, receive the services that we enjoy and create change in the world.

As you think, pray and make your pledge, I invite you to think just what might be possible if every one of us made our financial pledge as an act of faith and how much more your gift is able to do when we come together. Just like the early disciples who responded to those who were naked, hungry and imprisoned without counting the cost, you have the opportunity to do the same today. Your pledge is one of time, talent and treasure.

We are better together and when we all do our part we can radically live and radically give to create the world that God wants us all to live in!

~ Rev. Dr. Neil G. Thomas

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says God, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

~ Malachi 3:10

Feel free to contact Rev. Dr. Neil Thomas if you have more questions: revneil@mccla.org



# So how much is a tithe? A Weekly Tithing Chart

The following is a breakdown of weekly and annual income levels and their corresponding tithing figures in 2.5% increments. Please feel free to use this if you would like to calculate your financial contribution:

<u>Weekly</u> Income	<u>Annual</u> Income	<u>2.5% Tithe</u>	<u>5% Tithe</u>	<u>7.5% Tithe</u>	<u>10% Tithe</u>	<u>Your Tithe</u>
\$ 100.00	\$ 5,200	\$ 2.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 10.00	
\$ 200.00	\$10,400	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	
\$ 300.00	\$15,600	\$ 7.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 22.50	\$ 30.00	
\$ 400.00	\$20,800	\$10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	
\$ 500.00	\$26,000	\$12.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 50.00	
\$ 600.00	\$31,200	\$15.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	
\$ 700.00	\$36,400	\$17.50	\$ 35.00	\$ 52.50	\$ 70.00	
\$ 800.00	\$41,600	\$20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00	
\$ 900.00	\$46,800	\$22.50	\$ 45.00	\$ 67.50	\$ 90.00	
\$1,000.00	\$52,000	\$25.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$100.00	
\$1,250.00	\$65,000	\$31.25	\$ 62.50	\$ 93.50	\$125.00	
\$1,500.00	\$78,000	\$37.50	\$ 75.00	\$112.50	\$150.00	
\$2,000.00	\$104,000	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$200.00	

## Founders Metropolitan Community Church's Covenant to Our Members

- 1. Provide powerful worship experiences.
- 2. Provide education that will facilitate the development of your faith and spiritual journey.
- 3. Provide excellent "responsive" pastoral care.
- 4. Provide you with support through the programs that you participate in.
- 5. Provide ways for you to be heard.
- 6. Provide clear commitment to regular comprehensive communications, including an annual congregational meeting.
- 7. Provide a respectful environment for diverse views; treat each other with respect and honor diversity.
- 8. Acknowledge the gifts you bring forward and support you in the use of these gifts in the Church.
- 9. Acknowledge accomplishments.
- 10. Challenge you to be the best that you can be.

Signature of Senior Pastor

Date signed

## Your Covenant to Founders Metropolitan Community Church

- 1. I commit that Founders MCC is my Church home, and I will respect and honor my Church home.
- 2. I affirm the Mission, Vision, Core Values and Church goals of Founders MCC
- 3. I make a commitment to regular worship with Founders MCC
- 4. I commit to dealing directly and engaging in responsible conflict resolution and asking for help if needed.
- 5. I choose to discover and use my gifts by volunteering in ministry through Founders MCC.
- 6. I accept personal responsibility for caring in my ministry group.
- 7. I commit to regularly supporting the Church by identifying and honoring my ongoing financial commitment.
- 8. I will ask for help or support when I need care.
- 9. I will affirm that I have a role in nurturing the growth and development of the Church.
- 10. I will attend and participate in the annual congregational meeting. I will actively vote for the candidates in which will continue to support the Mission, Vision, Values and Church Goals of Founders MCC.

Signature of Member

Print Name

Date signed

## **FMCC** Talent Release Form

Name:
Address:
E-mail:
Phone:
PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
l,
give permission to Founders Metropolitan Community Church's Website
Ministry to use both sound and/or visual images of myself, in part or in
whole, for cablecast, broadcast, and/or other public viewing, including
Internet Streaming Video.
l,
do <b>NOT</b> give my permission to FMCC to use either sound or visual image of
myself for broadcasting nor internet.
Signature:
Parent or Legal Guardian (if under 18):
Date:

## **FMCC Membership Personal Data Sheet**

(Please note that any information provided is held in the strictest of confidence)

Name:			
Address:			
(include zip):			
Phone	Home:	Work:	
	Cell:	Pager:	
E-mail			
Emergency Contact:	Name:		
	Phone:		
Dates:	Birthday:	Anniversary:	
Baptism:	Date:	Place:	
Partner(s):			
Children:			
Occupation:			
Today's Date:			

Please describe any expectations, desires and hopes you have for your membership with FMCC:

Office use only	Follow up call:	Membership:
	Certificate:	

## **FMCC Gifts of Ministry**

Many opportunities are available to serve and participate in the life of our church. Not all opportunities exist at any given time. However, an indication of your personal preferences will be better recognized if you will take the time to let our church know what you really feel called to do and/or enjoy doing. Please indicate what you would like to do in the life of our church.

Name:		
E-mail:		
Phone:	Cell:	

### **Spiritual Education &**

### <u>Worship</u>

\_\_\_\_Teacher/Facilitator \_\_\_\_Event Promotion Kids' Club

### Worship & Music

Acting
Choir/Praise Team
Dancing
Flowers
Instrumentalist
Multi-Media (Sound, PowerPoint)
Participate in Worship
Set up sanctuary/altar
Vocal Soloist
Welcome Team

### **Helping Those in Need**

- \_\_\_\_Foster Care Mentoring
- \_\_\_\_Homeless (Brown Bag/HopeNet)
- \_\_\_Elder Connection
- \_\_\_\_Game Night with Seniors \_\_\_\_HIV/AIDS Ministry
- Immigration
- Laundry Love
- \_\_\_\_\_Thanksgiving feast for GLEH

### Annual Drives:

- \_\_\_\_Back Pack Drive
- \_\_\_\_Change for Change Drive
- \_\_\_\_Food Drive
- \_\_\_\_Queer Youth
- Back to Work Drive
- \_\_\_\_Toiletry Drive
- \_\_\_\_Toy Drive

### Behind the Scenes

### (Administration/Facilities)

#### \_\_Archives and History

- Board of Directors
- \_\_\_Financial Development
- \_\_\_Graphic Design
- \_\_\_Lay Delegates
- \_\_\_\_Publicity Sewing
- \_\_\_\_Website ministry

### Office Help

- \_\_\_\_Answer phones
- \_\_\_\_Errands
- \_\_\_\_General office
- \_\_\_\_Word Processing

### **Building & Grounds**

- \_\_\_Carpentry
- \_\_\_Electrical/Plumbing
- \_\_\_\_Health & Safety Team
- \_\_\_Interior cleaning
- \_\_\_\_Landscaping
- \_\_\_\_Painting

### **Creating Community**

### Hospitality/Social

- \_\_\_\_Entertainment events
- \_\_\_\_Fellowship after Worship
- \_\_\_\_Picnics
- \_\_\_\_Potlucks

### Connecting with others

- \_\_\_\_Azania (People of African
- Descent)
- \_\_\_\_Deaf Ministry
- \_\_\_\_Men's Spirituality Group
- \_\_\_\_Military Ministry
- \_\_\_\_POZ Spirit (Men with HIV/AIDS)
- \_\_\_\_Pride
- \_\_\_\_Social Butterflies (Trans)
- \_\_\_\_Women's Spirituality Group
- \_\_\_Young Professionals

### **Congregational Care**

- \_\_\_\_Contact missing members
- \_\_\_Grief Counselor
- \_\_\_\_Pastoral care sessions
- \_\_\_\_Send cards
- \_\_\_\_Speak to students/groups
- \_\_\_\_Visiting the sick
- \_\_\_\_Visitor Follow-up
- \_\_\_\_Writing prisoners

\_\_\_Other